

Sustainable Northampton
Data Related to Public Comment Themes
June 2006

Northampton Fast Facts

	Northampton 1990	Northampton 2000	Massachusetts 2000
Population	29,289	28,978	6,416,505
% Population Change		-1.06	-
Total Households	11,164	11,880	2,443,580
People per Household	2.62	2.44	-
Median Age	30 to 34	37	37
Median Household Income	\$31,097	\$41,808	\$50,502
<i>PVPC Community Indicators 2006 (U.S. Census Bureau and MA DET)</i>			

Natural beauty, facilities for outdoor recreation, and farmland:

Preserved Open Space (parks, conservation areas, recreation areas, restricted lands)

Northampton	% of Northampton	% of Hampshire County	% of Commonwealth
3,746 acres	15.5%	25.1%	24.3%

◆ 2000-2005—approximately 100 acres of open space per year permanently preserved

◆ 2000-2005---approximately 100 acres per year of undeveloped land developed

Source: Northampton Office of Planning & Development, local and State GIS data.

Recreation Programs

	1999	2006
Tax Supported Recreation Budget	\$159,394	\$158,593
People served annually	Not Available	11,000
Programs per year	100	100
# and Acres of Active Recreation Sites (Does not include Look Park or School property)	6 Sites/55 Acres	8 Sites/67.7 Acres
Sample Program Costs:	1997-1998	2005-2006
>KidZone (80 hrs. childcare/2 weeks)	\$95/session/ \$1.18/hour	\$145/session/\$1.81/hour
>Youth Basketball (13 weeks/one hour twice per week)	\$25/96 cents per hour	\$40/\$1.53 per hour

Prior to Proposition 2 ½ many recreation programs were free.

Source: Northampton Recreation Department and Northampton Open Space & Recreation Plans (1994 - 1990 & 2005 - 2010) Budget includes primarily programming budget (maintenance of recreation facilities is DPW budget.

Mix of Urban Areas, Rural Areas and Neighborhoods:

Population Density

Ward and Precinct	Acres	Population	Population Density
Ward 1A	484	1,986	4.1
Ward 1B	1,819	2,197	1.2
Ward 2A	212	1,455	6.9
Ward 2B	173	1,275	7.4
Ward 3A	1,900	2,035	1.1
Ward 3B	728	1,959	2.7
Ward 4A	97	1,487	15.4
Ward 4B	2,233	1,936	.9
Ward 5A	322	2,132	6.6
Ward 5B	823	1,963	2.4
Ward 6A	597	1,952	3.3
Ward 6B	4,426	2,188	.5
Ward 7A	2,472	1,889	.8
Ward 7B	4,748	2,192	.5

Source: Northampton Office of Planning & Development GIS, Census Data

Total Number of Residential Building Permits, New Housing Units

Community	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Northampton	26	18	40	47	63	N/A
Agawam	55	50	56	71	53	40
Amherst	44	37	37	36	31	75
Belchertown	87	99	96	123	114	93
Easthampton	31	55	54	17	55	95
Hadley	9	15	19	17	10	N/A
South Hadley	26	17	56	28	36	44
Southwick	55	54	72	57	67	47

Source: SOCDS Building Permits Database/PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006

Downtown Vibrancy:

Downtown Within Walking Distance Of Homes

Location	Within walking distance of downtown
In or within easy walk (10-15 minutes) of downtown	25% of city population
Within walking distance (20 minutes) of downtown	40% of city population

Source: Northampton Office of Planning & Development

Where Downtown Visitors Come From and Tourism Related Jobs

Northampton	22%
Pioneer Valley (including Northampton)	67%
Outside the Pioneer Valley in the Northeast	26%
MA Outside the Pioneer Valley	10%
Connecticut	7%
New York	4%
Percent of Businesses & Jobs That are Tourism Related (retail, accommodation, food service, arts, entertainment, and recreation)	Jobs 26% Businesses 27%
<i>2002 & 2004 Northampton Chamber of Commerce Visitor Surveys & UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile</i>	

Creative Economy-Quality Arts, Cultural, and Educational Resources:

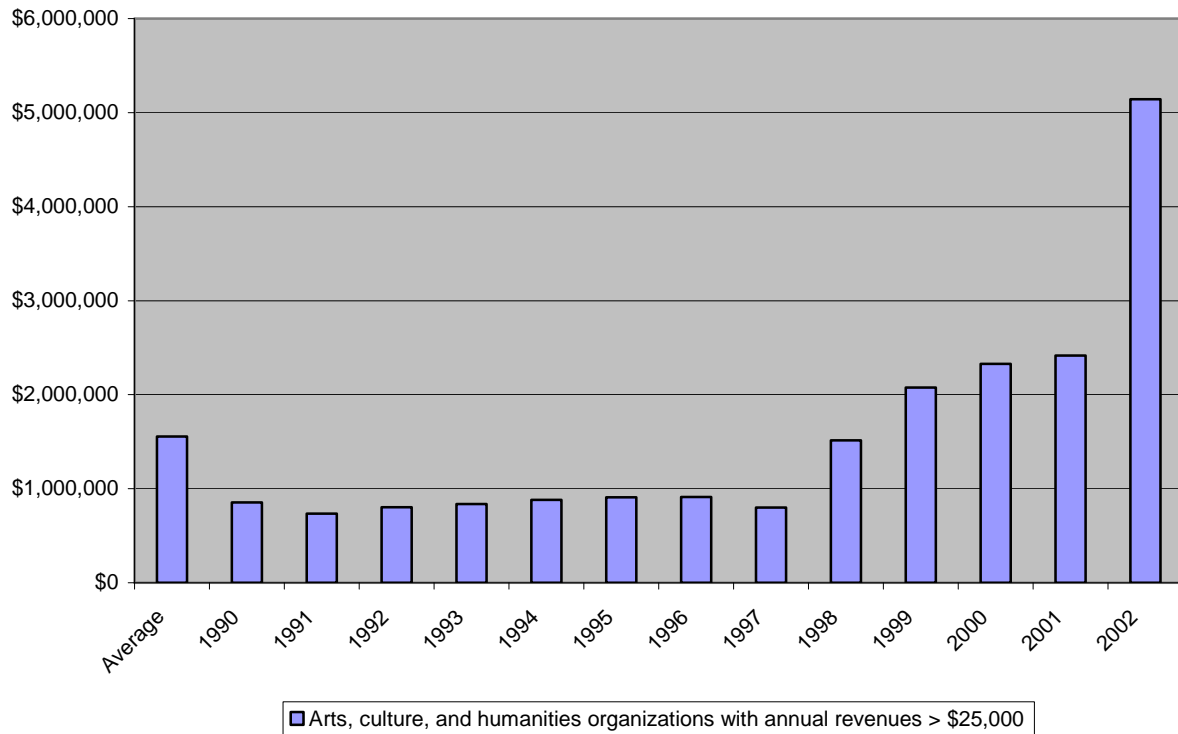
Northampton Arts, Cultural or Recreational Events/Performances

Arts/cultural events/performances per year	500
Recreational events/programs per year	200
<i>PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006 (based on Arts Council & Recreation Department estimates).</i>	

Economic Impact of Cultural Non-Profits in Northampton (sampling of 22 organizations)

Impact of Cultural Non-Profit Spending (includes direct, indirect, and induced spending)	\$12,250,876
Employment Impact of Cultural Non-Profits (includes direct, indirect, and induced employment)	384 jobs
Cultural Economy Impact on Average House Value	\$12,682.61
<i>Source: N.E. Cultural Database- a pilot study including data from 22 non-profit organizations located in Northampton. There are at least 70 other non-profit cultural organizations in Northampton for which financial data was not available. Estimates were based on economic models and standard multiplier calculators that trace the flow and level of spending and jobs in the economy. Spending and job impacts are for Hampshire County. Average House Value impact is for Northampton. Direct impact= spending and jobs created directly by the 22 non-profits. Indirect impact= changes in spending and jobs by other organizations as they respond to the new demands for their goods and services. Induced impact= changes in spending and jobs in other organizations as they respond to new demands from households with increased income spending their income locally.</i>	

Donations to Northampton Cultural Non-Profits



Source: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Data Digest/Non-Profit Organizations 2002

Cultural and Recreational Spending

Quality of Life Indicators	Northampton	Pioneer Valley Regional Average
Municipal cultural & recreation spending per capita (libraries, recreation, parks, historical commission, events)	\$51	\$48
Mass. Cultural Council grants to artists	\$104,500	\$10,000
Asset Value of arts, culture, humanities non-profit organizations per capita	\$864	\$97
<i>PVPC 2003 State of the People Report (2002 data) region includes Hampshire, Hampden & Franklin Counties</i>		

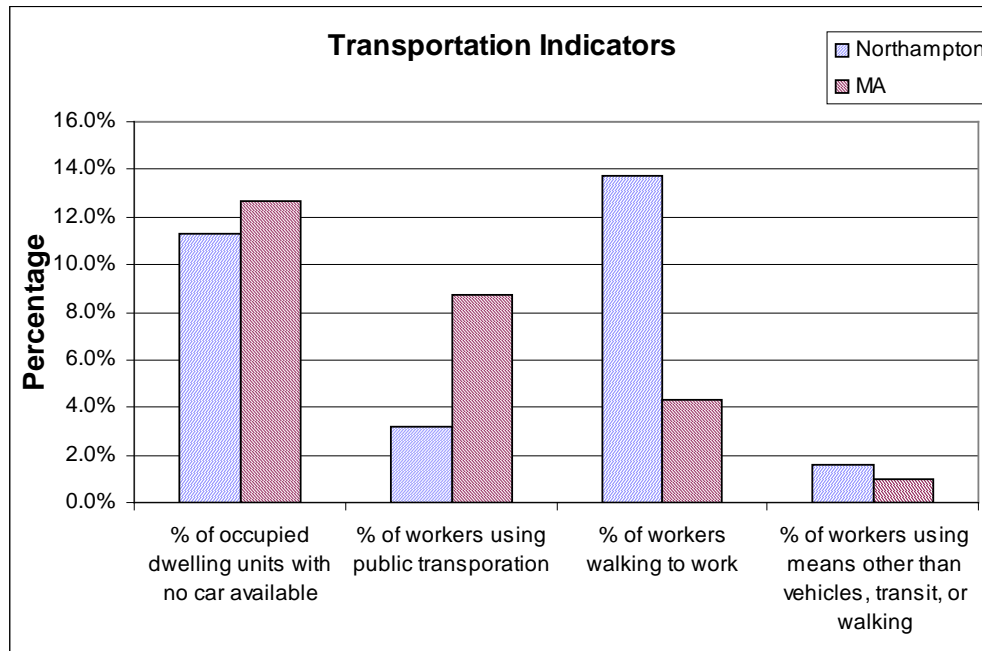
Industrial Site Selection Quality-of-Life Factors

Factor	Important or Very Important
Cultural opportunities	50.1%
<i>Source: 2005 site selector consultant survey, Consultants Site Guide</i>	

Transportation and Parking:

Registered vehicles in Northampton 1990-2005

Year	Vehicles	% Change
1990	19,208	
1995	19,756	+ 3%
2005	24,367	+ 23%
<i>PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006</i>		



Source: PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in Northampton on an Average Weekday

Year	VMT Average Weekday
2000	441,602.46
2004	640,321.18
2010	773,399.27
<i>PVPC ICLEI I-91 Corridor Project 2005 (2000 is base model using actual data. 2004 & 2010 extrapolated)</i>	

Central Business District Public Parking Supply

Total public parking spaces	1,797
On-street parking spaces	485
Off-street parking spaces	1,312
Public parking spaces north of Main St.	344
Public parking spaces south of Main St.	1354
Total parking space demand and percent of total	1601 (94%)
On-street parking utilization rate 11:30am-7:30pm	88-95%
Desirable peak utilization rate for on-street parking	85%

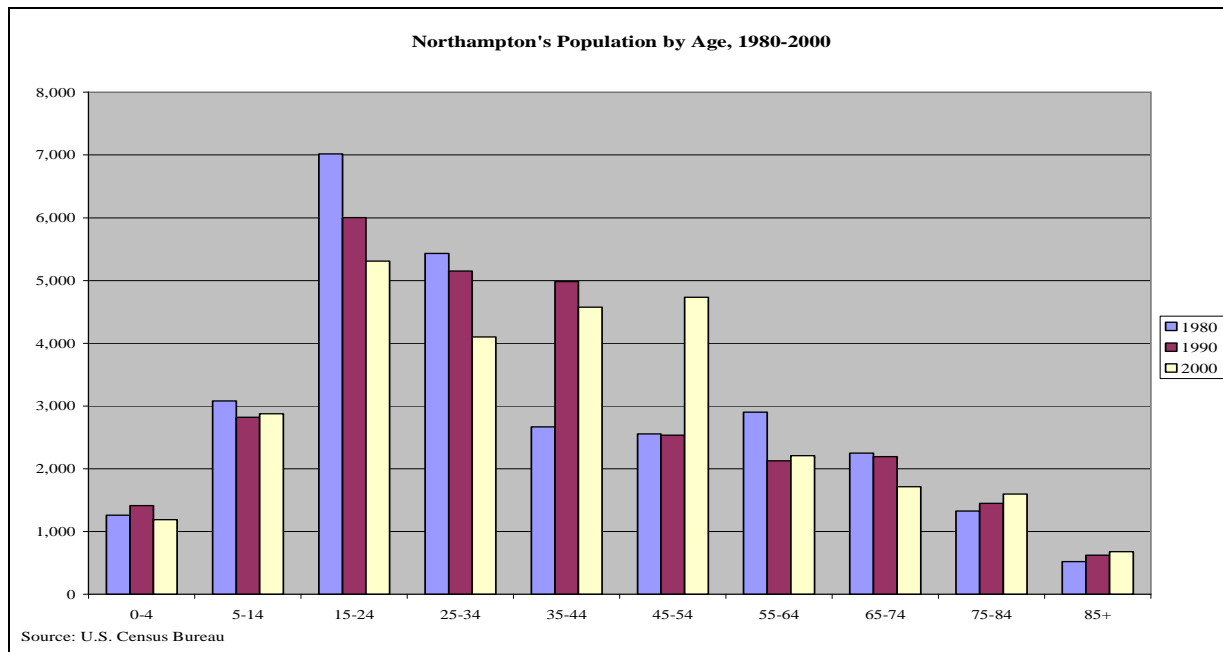
Off-street parking utilization rate	85%
Occupancy rate in garage (includes rooftop-not always available due to snow)	80%
Estimated parking deficiency south of Main St.	0
Estimated parking deficiency north of Main St.	175
Recommended additional public parking spaces (will address deficiency and projected growth)	200
<i>VHB Central Business District Parking Needs Study, August 2000</i>	

Diversity and Affordability:

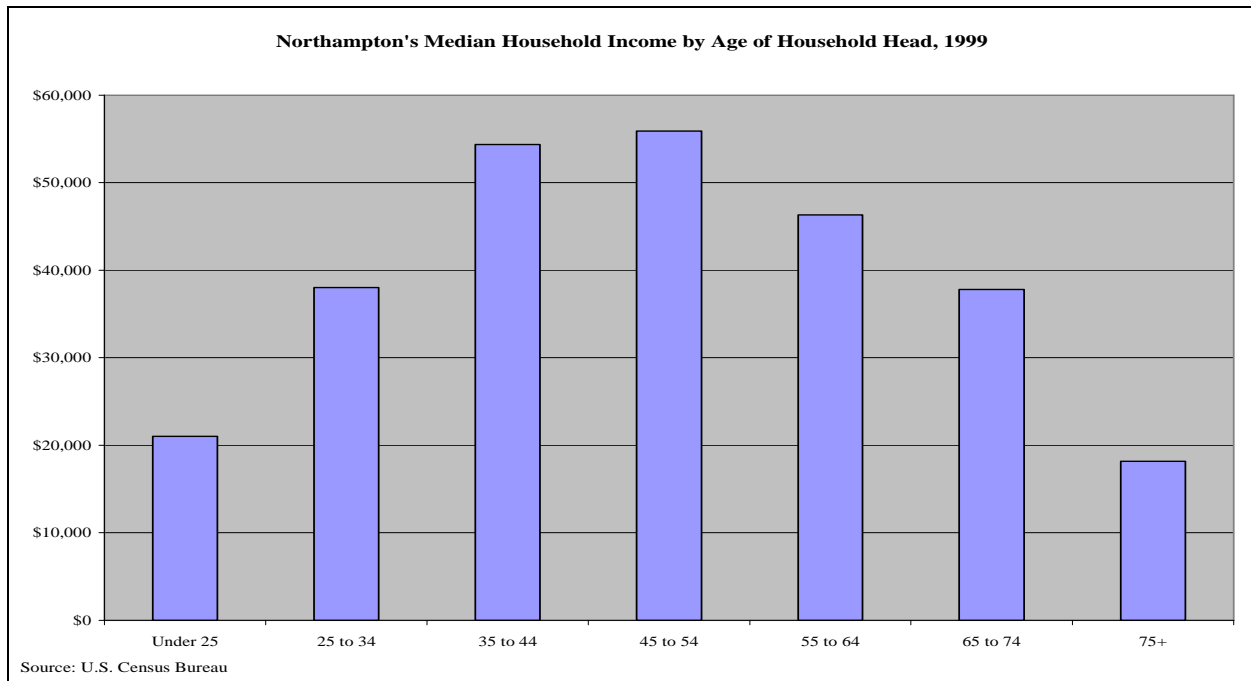
Ethnic/Racial Population Distribution

	Northampton 1990	Northampton 2000
% White population	91.14%	90%
% Hispanic/Latino	4.10%	5.24%
% Black Population	1.67%	2.08%
% Asian	2.82%	3.13%
% Other Population	.10%	2.41%

Age and Income Distribution



PVPC Northampton Economic Indicators Report 2006



PVPC Northampton Economic Indicators Report 2006

Income

<i>PVPC Northampton Economic Indicators Report 2006 and Mayor's Office Calculations.</i>	Northampton 1990	Northampton 2000	Massachusetts 2000
Median Household Income	\$31,097	\$41,808	\$50,502
% of Households below 80% of State Median Household Income (\$40,000)	-	48%	-
Per Capita Income	\$14,623	\$24,022	\$25,952
Poverty Rate	-	8.7%	9.3%

Housing Affordability Gap

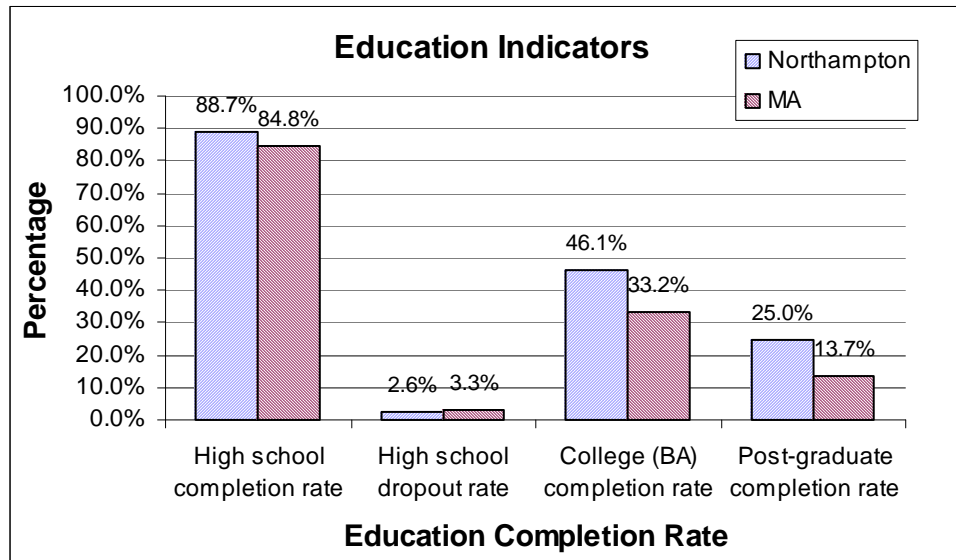
	Northampton	Massachusetts
Median Single Family Home Sale Price (2005)	\$289,900	\$348,500
Household income needed to purchase a house at the average sale price	\$88,000	\$112,644
Households earning income needed to purchase a house at the average sale price	21%	17.4%
Monthly housing and utility costs, at 30% of monthly income, affordable at the median household income	\$1,000/month	\$1,263/month
Average Rent for a 2-bedroom apartment	\$900+ utilities	N/A
<i>PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006. MA data computed by Mayor's Office using MA Assoc. of Realtors data and PVPC formulas.</i>		

Housing Occupancy

	Northampton 2004	Massachusetts 2004
Owner Units	53.5%	-
Owner Units Vacancy Rate	0.4%	0.7%
Rental Units	5,525 (46.5%)	38.3%
Rental Units Vacancy Rate (2004)	3.4%	3.5%
% Subsidized Housing Units	11.8%	9.3%

Source: PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006

Education Indicators:



Source: PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006

Northampton Educational Attainment

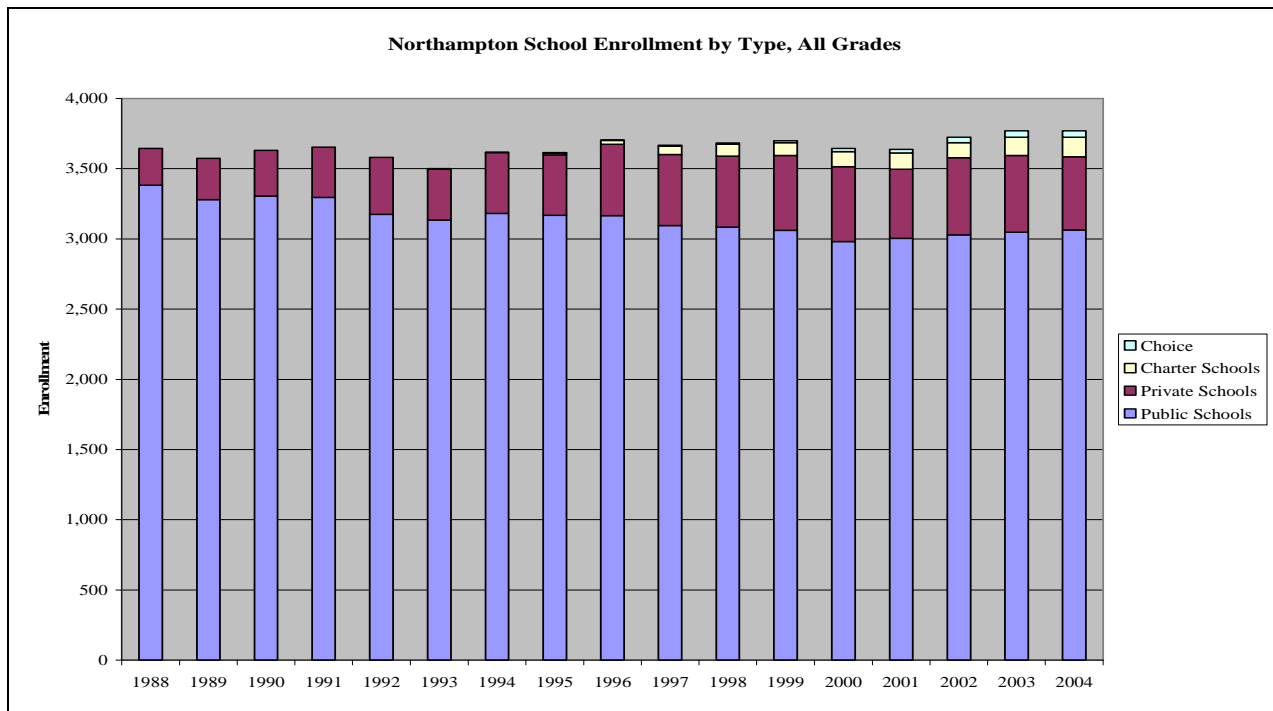
	Northampton	Massachusetts
% Population Completed High School	88.7%	84.8%
% Population Completed Associates Degree	22%	24%
% Population Completed College (BA)	46.1%	33.2%
% Population Completed Post-Graduate	25%	13.7%

PVPC Northampton Community Indicators & Massachusetts Department of Education & Donahue Institute

Northampton Public School Enrollment

	Northampton	Massachusetts
Smith Vocational (9-12) Drop-out Rate	5.2%	3.7%
Northampton Public Schools (PK-12) Drop-out Rate	3.0%	3.7%
2004 Public School Enrollment Compared to 1994	-2.2%	-
2004 Annual dollars spent per student	\$7,609	-
2005 Student/Teacher Ratio	12.7 to 1	13.2 to 1
Percent of 2005 Enrollment that is Low-Income	26.3%	28.2%
Percent of 2005 Enrollment First Language not English	7.8%	14.3%

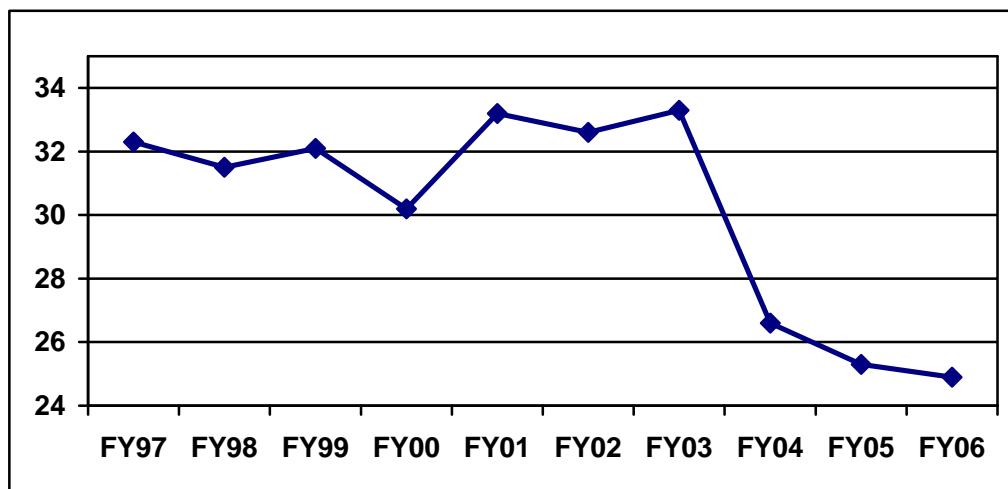
Percent of 2005 Enrollment is Special Education	19.3%	16.5%
Percent of Northampton Children Attending Public Schools	84.6%	89.8%
<i>PVPC Northampton Community Indicators & Massachusetts Department of Education & Donahue Institute</i>		



Source: PVPC Northampton Community Indicators Report 2006

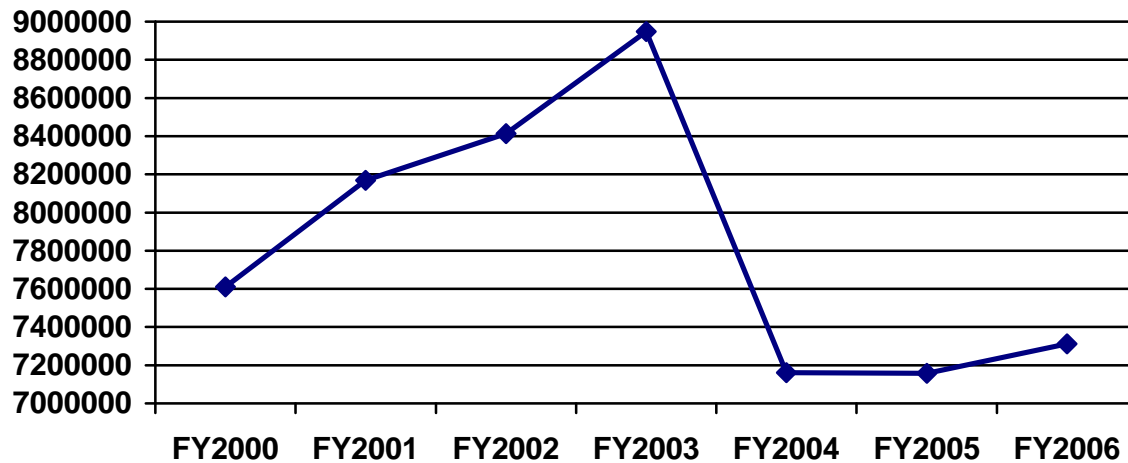
CHAPTER 70 AID AS PERCENT OF ACTUAL NET SCHOOL SPENDING, FY1997-FY2006

Source: Department of Education Website, updated April 7, 2006



Source: Graph from page 10, last page, of School Department budget

Trend in Chapter 70 (School Funding)

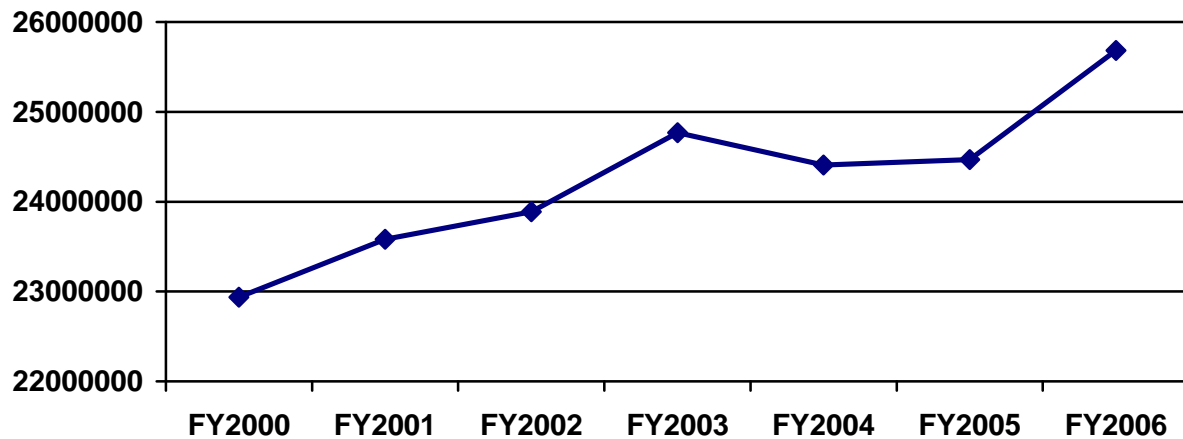


FY2006 Chapter 70 funding remains below FY2000 funding.

Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office using DOR data

City of Northampton Spending on Education (Includes Smith Vocational)

Does not include costs of retirement or health insurance benefits for school faculty and staff, debt service or capital expenditures.



Economic Indicators:

Northampton Commercial/Industrial Base

Industrial Square Footage	2,212,942
Commercial Square Footage	4,120,267
Total C/I Square Footage	6,333,209

Source: Northampton Assessors Office

Downtown Commercial Affordability

Average Downtown Retail (1 st floor) Lease Rates			
Northampton	Easthampton	Holyoke	Greenfield
\$18-\$30/sf	\$4-\$8/sf	\$10-\$12/sf	\$7-\$10/sf

Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office from information provided by Northampton Assessors Office, Easthampton Town Planner, Holyoke Planning Department, and Kim Levitch Appraisers, 2006.

Labor Force Data

Labor Force (2004)	17,259
Workforce Pull Within 45 mins. Travel Time	414,115
Northampton residents working in Northampton	61%
Unemployment Rate (2004)	3.7%

Massachusetts Division of Career Services and Division of Unemployment Assistance; U.S. Census Bureau, Census Transportation Planning Package (2000)

Annual Wages

	Northampton 2002	Northampton 2004	Massachusetts 2002	Massachusetts 2004
Average Annual Wage	\$29,345	\$35,071 +19.5%	\$44,329	\$48,934 +10.3%

PVPC Northampton Community Indicators, 2006. 32.2% of the Northampton workforce works part-time (less than 35 hours/week) compared to MA at 24.2% may partly explain lower annual wages.

Northampton Primary Employment Sectors and Wages (2004)

Sector	# of Jobs	% of total jobs	Average Wage
Health Care & Social Assistance	4,481	27%	\$38,278
Educational Services	2,755	15%	\$39,889
Retail Trade	2,360	13%	\$23,788
Accommodation and Food Service	1,891	11%	\$15,097
Manufacturing	1,092	6%	\$53,087

MA Division of Unemployment Assistance – Donahue Institute Economic Data Tables 2006

Industry Clusters Where Northampton Does Well Compared to the U.S. and Massachusetts

Health Care
Knowledge Creation
Arts, Tourism & Recreation
Advanced Technology Manufacturing (Kollmorgen, Millitech, MicroCal, Etchell's Technology)

Donahue Institute 2006 Location Quotient Analysis-Compares concentration of Northampton business sectors to MA and U.S. These are the sectors where Northampton rates higher or comparable in comparison.

Northampton Retail Sector

Retail Category	2002 Sales	% of Total
Total All Categories	\$437,796,000	N/A
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	\$143,637,000	32.8%
Food and Beverage Stores	\$98,933,000	22.5%
Non-Store Retailers	\$26,493,000	6%
Gasoline Stations	\$25,554,000	5.8%
Clothing and Accessories Stores	\$23,132,000	5.3%

Health and Personal Care Stores	\$22,913,000	5.2%
Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	\$21,627,000	5%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Books and Music Stores	\$13,493,000	3%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	\$8,911,000	2%
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	\$6,275,000	1.4%
General Merchandise Stores	Suppressed	N/A
Miscellaneous Stores	Suppressed	N/A
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile Tables 2006, (U.S. Economic Census data)</i>		

Northampton Retail Sales Growth 1997-2002 (top 3 and bottom 3 categories)

Retail Category	Percent Change in Sales
Non-Store retailers	+111%
Health and Personal Care	+27%
Motor Vehicle and Parts	+18%
Electronics & Appliances	-28%
Building Materials & Garden Supply	-23%
Gasoline Stations	-18%
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile Tables 2006, (U.S. Economic Census data)</i>	

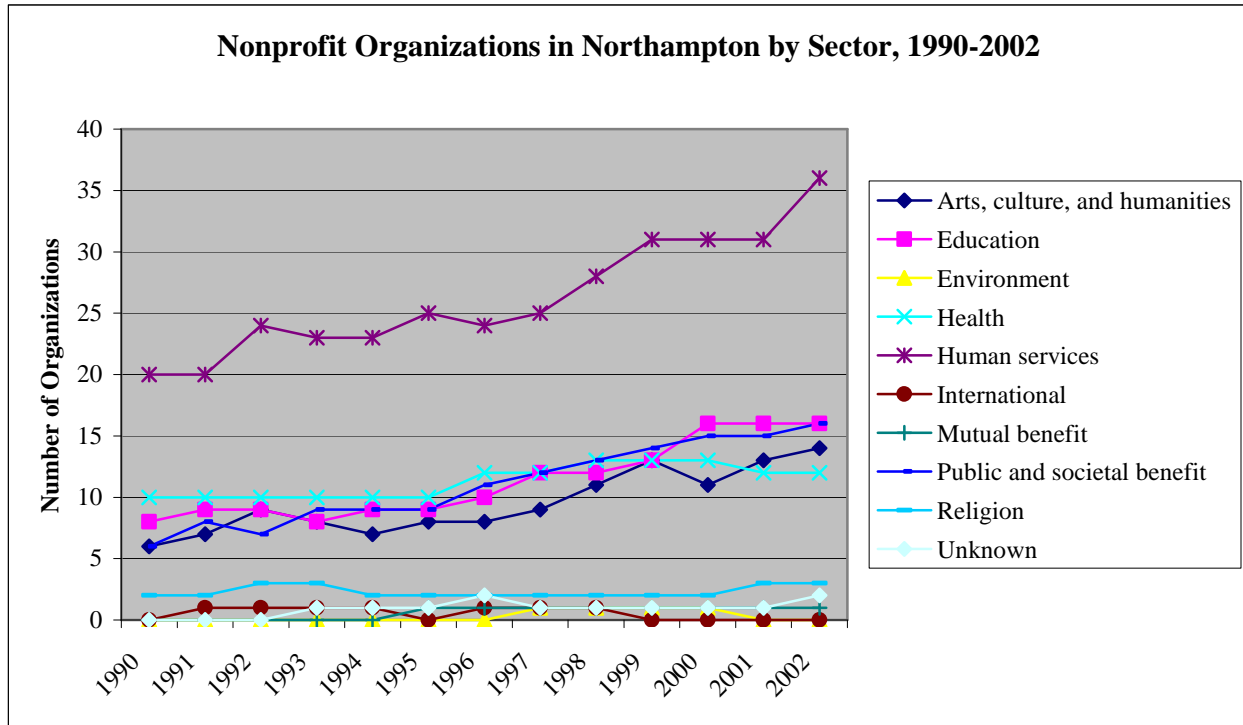
Hampshire County Retail Trends

	Northampton	Amherst	Hampshire County
Percent change in retail sales 1997-2002	15%	62%	31.5%
Share of Hampshire County sales (2002)	34.51%	11.63%	N/A
Change in sales as percent of Hampshire County Sales 1997-2002	-5%	+2%	N/A
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile Tables 2006 (U.S. Economic Census data). Hadley data suppressed due to small number of establishments.</i>			

Comparison of Municipal Retail Sales as a Percentage of Pioneer Valley Sales

	Northampton	Amherst	Chicopee	Holyoke	W.Springfield	Springfield	Greenfield
2002	6.43%	2.17%	7.17%	10.58%	14.22%	19.72%	5.11%
% Change from 1997	-.75%	+.45%	-.06%	+2.06%	+.27%	-1.49%	-.15%
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile Tables 2006 (U.S. Economic Census data). Hadley data suppressed due to small number of establishments.</i>							

Non-Profit Sector



PVPC Non-Profits Data 2002 - Dept. of Revenue Form 990's (219 organizations with > \$25,000 in revenues). Northampton is second to Springfield in the number of non-profits by municipality in the Pioneer Valley.

Northampton Energy Use and Costs:

Community Energy Use/CO2 Emissions

	Community	Municipal
Total in 2000	372,363 tons CO2	12,978 tons CO2
Transportation	26.5%	-
Residential	28.4%	-
Municipal, industrial, non-profit, and commercial	45.5%	-
Electricity	22%	63%
Natural Gas	26%	15%
Heating Oil	13.7%	10%
Gasoline	28.5%	6.6%
Diesel	2.8%	3.9%
Other (community)	6%	-
Buildings	-	63%
Waste (landfill)	-	0%
Streetlights	-	10%
Vehicle Fleet	-	11%
Waste Water Treatment Plant	-	16%
2000 Total Municipal Fuel Costs	-	\$1,285,517
<i>The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), 2000 Cities for Climate Protection Campaign Northampton Inventory</i>		

Municipal Finance Trends:

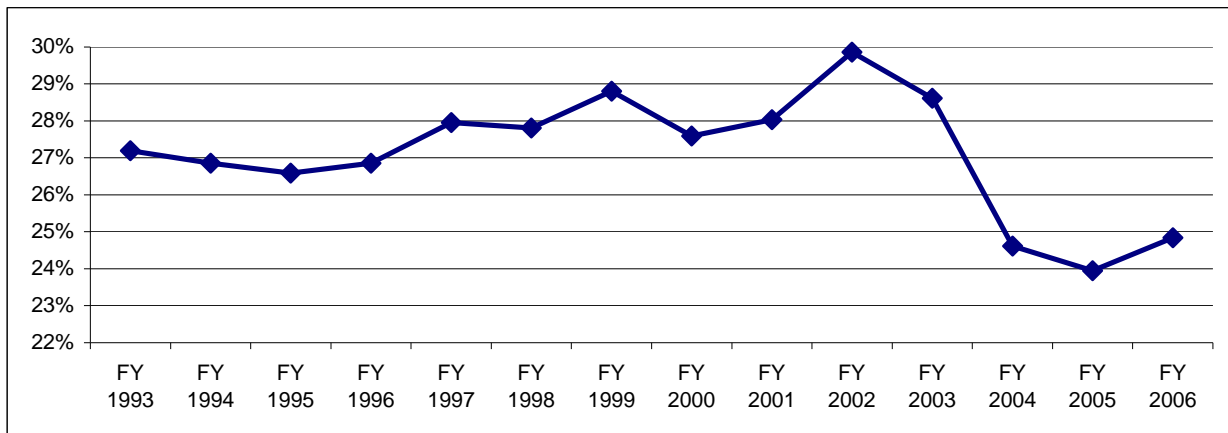
Northampton Tax Base Composition

Residential Property As Percent Of Northampton Tax Levy	79.5%
Commercial Property As Percent Of Northampton Tax Levy	15%
Industrial Property As Percent Of Northampton Tax Levy	3%
Personal Property As Percent Of Northampton Tax Levy	2.3%
Percent Of Total Assessed Value That Is Tax Exempt	21%
Largest Tax Exempt Property Holders As Percent Of Assessed Value	Colleges/Private Schools= 42% Municipal=28%
Largest Tax Exempt Property Holders As Percent Of Acreage	Municipal=57% State=27.5%
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile 2006 (MA Dept. of Revenue 2006)</i>	

Comparison of Tax Exempt Property in Northampton, Boston & Cambridge, 2006

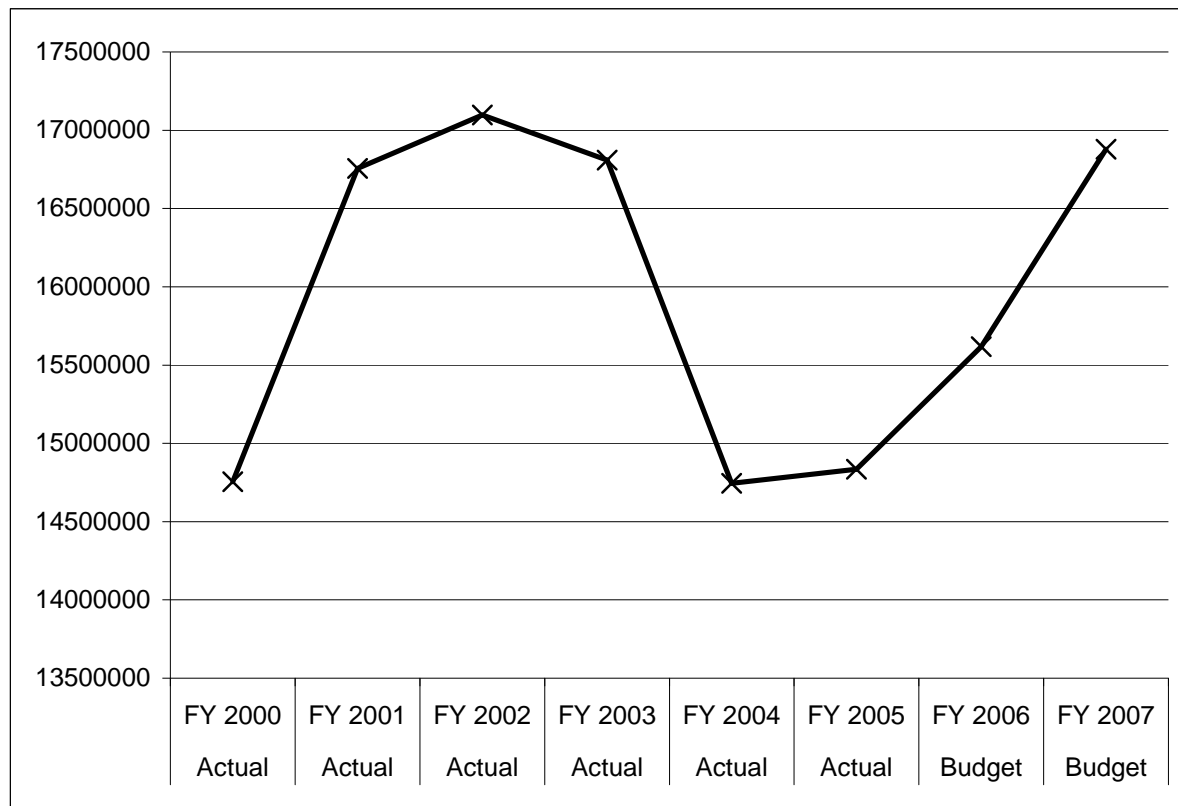
Municipality	Exempt Acreage	Total Acreage	Percent Exempt	Exempt Acreage Per Capita
Northampton	4,264.38	22,053.12	19.3%	0.15
Boston	14,687.00	30,992.74	47.4%	0.02
Cambridge	1,271.00	4,114.36	30.9%	0.01
<i>UMass Donahue Institute Economic Profile 2006 (MA Dept. of Revenue 2006)</i>				

State Aid as a Percent of the City's General Fund Budget Over Time



Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office, DOR Data

State Aid FY 2000 – FY 2006 (The FY 2007 funding remains below FY 2002)



Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office, DOR Data

Average Single Family Tax Bill
FY 2000- FY 2006

FISCAL YEAR	NORTHAMPTON	% Change	STATE	% Change
FY2000	\$2,314		\$2,679	
FY2001	\$2,589	11%	\$2,826	6%
FY2002	\$2,674	3%	\$3,015	7%
FY2003	\$2,778	4%	\$3,206	6%
FY2004	\$2,947	6%	\$3,412	6%
FY2005	\$3,079	4%	\$3,588	12%

Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office, DOR Data in Current Dollars

Northampton's Average Single Family Tax Bill Rank Among 340 Cities and Towns

FY2000	168
FY2001	139
FY2002	156
FY2003	164
FY2004	164
FY2005	167

Source: Compiled by Mayor's Office, DOR Data in Current Dollars